

around every corner, he volunteered, assessed, and was selected to serve in the 75th Ranger Regiment, 5th Special Forces Group, and the Southern European Task Force. After several years and multiple overseas deployments, Major Likins felt a greater calling of leadership and pursued a commission in the U.S. Army.

Major Likins was commissioned as an infantry officer on October 11th, 2001, through Officer Candidate School. As an officer, he served in several leadership positions in light infantry and airborne units across the country and Europe. At the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom, serving as a Company Executive Officer in the 173rd Airborne, Major Likins participated in a daring brigade-level parachute assault into Iraq. He then deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and served as an operations officer within the 2–503rd Infantry (Airborne).

Major Likins then joined the 10th Mountain Division and commanded two different infantry companies. On his second command, Major Likins deployed his company to an austere company outpost in Iraq where he partnered and trained an Iraqi Army battalion. Major Likins was then selected as an Army Congressional Fellow where he served as an integral member of my staff. Finally, he served as the legislative liaison managing the Soldier Systems portfolio, ensuring our troops going into combat are supplied with the best equipment available.

Major Likins has truly lived at the tip of the spear throughout his career. From Desert Storm to Haiti, Bosnia to Kosovo, and to Iraq to Afghanistan, he has deployed to almost every place around the globe where the Army has been sent into harm's way. He has also earned two Masters Degrees during his service and has exemplified the warrior-scholar who our nation needs leading our men and women into combat.

Throughout his 25 years of service to the nation, Major Likins has earned numerous awards and decorations to include: Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Special Forces and Ranger Tabs, Master Parachutists Wings with combat jump device, Air Assault Badge, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit.

I am proud to share in the celebration of Major Likins' military career. I would also like to congratulate his wife, Bettina, and his two children, Patrick and Kirsten, whose love and support aided and strengthened Major Likins as he has served our great nation. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL
SEVERINO

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michael Severino, M.D., an outstanding physician from Illinois. Recently, AbbVie, a cutting-edge pharmaceutical company with a large Illinois presence, named Dr. Severino Executive Vice President of Research and Development (R&D) and Chief Scientific Officer. AbbVie's selection of Dr. Severino to lead corporate innovation and

product development reflects a company-wide commitment to developing new therapies and continuing to push the bio-tech industry to new frontiers.

Dr. Severino's responsibilities will include leading AbbVie's R&D, Medical Affairs and Regulatory Affairs organizations, bringing his years of experience to bear on guiding the company's 7,000 worldwide employees engaged in scientific discovery. Collectively, they will be working to develop a steady stream of new medicines for patients.

Dr. Severino has most recently served as Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at AbbVie. He is a leader in clinical development strategy across therapeutic areas including immunology, neuroscience, oncology and cardiovascular disease. Over ten years at AbbVie, Dr. Severino has consistently taken on positions of increasing responsibility, particularly in the area of R&D.

AbbVie's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Michael Gonzalez, praised Dr. Severino stating, "We are fortunate to have a leader of his caliber to steer our efforts to develop treatments for today's toughest health challenges. He will be instrumental in moving our pipeline and strategy forward."

Mr. Speaker, and my distinguished colleagues in the House, please join me in congratulating Dr. Severino on his new position and wishing him many future successes as he works to understand and treat a wide array of ailments to help others live happier, healthier lives.

REMEMBERING TONY HACKBARTH

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Tony Hackbarth. Tony, who passed away on May 21, 2014, was a larger than life figure in the Hi-Desert's city of Barstow.

Better known as Mr. Del Taco, Tony and his brother Ed opened the first Del Taco on First Street in Barstow in 1966. By 1981, Del Taco had 250 locations across the Golden State feeding thousands of customers every day. After selling the franchise in 1979, Tony remained the owner and operator of the three Barstow restaurants located on First Street, Mountain View, and Lenwood Road. He worked at the First Street location up until his death.

Everyone in the Barstow community knew Tony and could find him waving out of the drive through window of the First Street Del Taco location. A true man of the people, and a champion of the community it is with a heavy heart that I stand here today.

Tony served four years in the U.S. Air Force and was discharged in 1958. In 2001, he was awarded the "Man of Continuous Service" by the Barstow Chamber of Commerce and he and his wife were awarded the "Parents of the Year" award in 1990.

Tony is survived by his wife of 56 years, Barbara and their four children, Julie, Mark, Aaron, and Brae. I join with the City of Barstow and everyone who had the pleasure of knowing Tony in remembering him, and praying for his family.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to H.R. 4031, the Department of Veterans Affairs Management Accountability Act of 2014.

I represent the VA West Los Angeles Medical Center, which is the largest VA medical facility in the Nation. I am outraged by the recent allegations of serious misconduct and mismanagement at VA hospitals. I understand the urgency my colleagues feel to act, but this legislation will not solve the problems plaguing the Department of Veterans Affairs because it doesn't address the systemic deficiencies that are preventing our veterans from getting the care they so deserve.

H.R. 4031 has been brought to the floor without a committee hearing or markup. It gives the Secretary of the VA the authority to fire Senior Executive Service (SES) employees at will. The Secretary already has the authority to fire SES employees for cause. The legislation is not only unnecessary; it is harmful because it would allow political appointees to fire nonpolitical senior federal executives for any reason. It would set a bad precedent and jeopardize the Department's ability to recruit the most talented individuals to the VA.

I want to work with my colleagues to draft sensible legislation that will actually solve the problems at the VA with a new metric for accountability and executive performance.

INTRODUCING THE INVESTING TO MODERNIZE THE PRODUCTION OF AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY ACT OF 2014

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Investing to Modernize the Production of American Clean Energy and Technology Act of 2014, a bill that will continue this Nation's march towards sustainable power solutions.

This bill will continue a number of valuable tax provisions used by clean energy companies to level the playing field so that clean energy can compete with its more established traditional-energy counterparts. This is done by extending tax provisions for onshore and offshore wind and other renewable energy production.

The bill also provides incentives for clean energy manufacturing, energy efficient appliances and homes, electric vehicles, and a new era of natural gas-powered vehicles.

At the same time, this bill prevents major oil companies from continuing to benefit from corporate giveaways tucked into the tax code at a time when their industry is making record profits.

This bill is a statement of principles and vision as much as it is about tax policy. America

needs clean renewable energy sources in the coming decades, resources that cannot be developed overnight. This bill will ensure America remains a strong and prosperous Nation while laying the groundwork for an economy built on clean energy.

HONORING BILL NANGLE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound respect and admiration that I pay tribute to the remarkable career of William "Bill" Nangle, longtime journalist and executive editor of The Times Media Company. Mr. Nangle will be retiring from his position after an extraordinary and distinguished fifty years in journalism. In recognition of his outstanding career, Bill will be honored with a reception on Thursday, May 29, 2014, at Briar Ridge Country Club in Schererville, Indiana.

Bill Nangle's career as a journalist spans five decades. After beginning his career as a correspondent in his hometown of Wabash, Indiana, Bill went on to become an editor in Kokomo and Franklin, Indiana, as well as Bristol, Virginia. In 1970, he joined The Times, then known as The Hammond Times, and was instrumental in its success, as it has become Northwest Indiana's leading media company.

Throughout his career, Mr. Nangle has been known as a leader for good government and open access laws, fighting for the public's right to know what its elected representatives are doing. In 1989, he urged Indiana lawmakers and then Governor Evan Bayh to enact a state law in order to reverse a court decision that closed county coroner records to the public. Nearly a decade later, Bill's passion for open government flourished when he coordinated with seven of the state's largest newspapers for a project that changed the way Indiana officials deal with requests for information. He pioneered an experiment that had reporters test each of the state's 92 counties for open access to government records. The findings were presented in a groundbreaking collaboration of all seven newspapers on one Sunday, known as the State of Secrecy. The project was so successful that then Governor Frank O'Bannon formed a blue-ribbon panel, which included Mr. Nangle, to investigate the situation. As a result, the State of Secrecy became a national model for testing access to public records and has since been replicated in 32 states.

With a diverse population in Lake and Porter Counties in Indiana, as well as Illinois, Bill Nangle successfully managed a focus on regional journalism, while maintaining coverage of state and national issues. Under his direction, The Times, which publishes four zone specific issues, has been emulated and this approach termed the "Munster model."

During Mr. Nangle's tenure, The Times has made its mark as the most decorated Indiana newspaper of its size, winning the Hoosier State Press Association competition for Blue Ribbon daily newspaper of the year in 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 2000, and 2003. Throughout his career, Bill, too, has received his fair share of accolades, including distinguished service awards from both the Hoosier

State Press Association and the Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce. He is also a recipient of Ball State University's Indiana Journalism Award and has been inducted into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame. For his outstanding contributions to Hoosier heritage, Bill is also a recipient of the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash, presented to him by the late Governor Frank O'Bannon.

William Nangle is also committed to his community in a very personal and selfless way. This is shown through the numerous organizations to which he is active in, including the Crisis Center of Gary, the Northwest Indiana Forum, and the Northwest Indiana Chapter of the American Red Cross, to name just a few. The consummate newsman, Bill also serves on the strategic planning committee of the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other colleagues join me in honoring Bill Nangle for his distinguished career in journalism. His commitment to his community and his excellence in leadership with The Times Media Company are unparalleled, and I wish him and his wife, Rita, and their family, the best in the years to come.

USA FREEDOM ACT

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, although I ultimately voted in favor of this bill, H.R. 361, the USA Freedom Act, like all legislation, it is not perfect. I, however, recognize that that without the reforms in H.R. 3361, the government's bulk collection of phone metadata and other records would continue absent necessary modifications. More reforms to these programs are necessary, and I am looking forward to continuing to implement them to protect individual liberties as well as national security.

TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE MCCORMICK

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Network of Community Options and Resources recipient of the 2014 Direct Support Professional of the Year for the state of West Virginia, Katherine McCormick. This decoration is truly an honor to receive, as it has been awarded annually for the past seven years to individuals in each state whom exemplify the values of the organization.

The American Network of Community Options and Resources was founded in 1970 as a national association of seven-hundred private providers that help support more than a half million of Americans with disabilities in communities. On May 6, 2014 Katherine was recognized for her outstanding leadership which set her apart from her peers in supporting those with disabilities in all aspects of life.

Without Katherine's commitment to enriching the lives of others, many West Virginians would be unable to function effectively in society. Mr. Speaker, the state of West Virginia owes Katherine McCormick and the men and women like her a debt of gratitude. I am honored to call Katherine a fellow West Virginian.

A NEW TRADITION OF WINNING AT NORTH STOKES HIGH

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, in sports, success depends heavily on tradition, and the boys' track team at North Stokes High in Stokes County, North Carolina, provided a perfect example of just how important that dependence can be. I am pleased to announce that the North Stokes boys' track team that calls the Sixth District home, recently won the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state IA track and field championships for the first time in the school's history.

The Vikings path to victory, however, was not a straight line. The team faced fierce competition—and holding no previous state titles—it seemed the odds were against them. Despite these obstacles the Vikings were able to solidify the top spot after completing the 4x400 meter dash. The team set a personal record of 3:34.26, which they achieved by knocking eight seconds off their previous time. Coach Mike Williams credits the team's success to the program's strong sense of tradition and support from the staff.

While winning is important, it is not everything to the North Stokes Vikings. "We want to see results," Coach Williams told the Stokes News, "but it's also important to us that the kids are having fun." Williams said that it took the entire team to bring home the state championship. Members of the team included Colin Anderson, Austin Boyles, Brandon Boyles, Daniel Brown, Cameron Corns, Noah Dike, Dawson Durham, Junior Fulks, James Hammonds, Erin Heath, Justin Kenard, Andy Kopp, Andrew Lankford, Ross Lucia, Kaleb Marshall, Kenny Myers, Laith Nickell, Ottaway Shepard, Kevin Robertson, Jarrett Slate, Mark Tucker, Seth Tucker, Blake Williams, and Dakota Young. Coach Williams guided the Vikings to the top with outstanding help by assistant coaches Rodney King, Jimmy Dillard, Ben Kelble, and Breanna Largen.

In addition to the team victory, two Vikings brought home individual titles. Moriah Boyette and Justin Kenard both finished first at the track meet. Boyette won the girls' pole vault competition, while Kenard captured the individual title for North Stokes in the boys' 800-meter

On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate Principal Nathan Rasey, Athletic Director Trey Wiggins, the faculty, stag and students of North Stokes High School for winning the IA track and field state championships. The Vikings have started a new tradition of winning at North Stokes High.